

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 500

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study certain sites in the historic district of Beaufort, South Carolina, relating to the Reconstruction Era.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 3, 2003

Mr. HOLLINGS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study certain sites in the historic district of Beaufort, South Carolina, relating to the Reconstruction Era.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Beaufort, South Caro-
5 lina, Study Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

10 (2) STUDY AREA.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “study area”
 2 means the area comprised of historical sites in
 3 the historic district of Beaufort, South Caro-
 4 lina, relating to the Reconstruction Era.

5 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “study area”
 6 includes—

- 7 (i) the Penn School;
- 8 (ii) the Old Fort Plantation on the
- 9 Beaufort River;
- 10 (iii) the Freedmen’s Bureau in Beau-
- 11 fort College;
- 12 (iv) the First Freedmen’s Village of
- 13 Mitchellville on Hilton Head Island;
- 14 (v) various historic buildings and ar-
- 15 chaeological sites associated with Robert
- 16 Smalls;
- 17 (vi) the Beaufort Arsenal; and
- 18 (vii) other significant sites relating to
- 19 the Reconstruction Era.

20 **SEC. 3. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a
 22 special resource study of the study area to assess the suit-
 23 ability and feasibility of designating the study area as a
 24 unit of the National Park System.

1 (b) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under
 2 subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with sec-
 3 tion 8(c) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)).

4 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date
 5 on which funds are made available to carry out the study
 6 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the
 7 Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives
 8 and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
 9 the Senate a report that describes—

10 (1) the findings of the study; and

11 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
 12 Secretary.

13 **SEC. 4. THEME STUDY.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a na-
 15 tional historic landmark theme study to identify sites and
 16 resources in the United States that are significant to the
 17 Reconstruction Era.

18 (b) CONTENTS.—The theme study shall include rec-
 19 ommendations for commemorating and interpreting sites
 20 and resources identified by the theme study, including—

21 (1) sites that should be nominated as national
 22 historic landmarks; and

23 (2) sites for which further study for potential
 24 inclusion in the National Park System should be au-
 25 thorized.

1 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date
2 on which funds are made available to carry out the study
3 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the
4 Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives
5 and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
6 the Senate a report that describes—

7 (1) the findings of the study; and

8 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
9 Secretary.

10 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
12 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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